

LOG OF MEETING
DIRECTORATE FOR ENGINEERING SCIENCES

SUBJECT: Meeting of ASTM Sub-Committee F15.44 Play Equipment for Children Under 2, F15.09 Home Playground Equipment, F15.36 Soft Contained Play Equipment, F15.29 Playground Equipment for Public Use

CPSC/OFFICE OF
THE SECRETARY
2000 MAY 18 P 4: 08

DATE OF MEETING: May 8- 11, 2000

PLACE: West Conshohocken, PA.

LOG ENTRY SOURCE: Mark Kumagai, ESME *MK*

DATE OF ENTRY: May 16, 2000

COMMISSION ATTENDEES: Mark Kumagai, ESME

NON-COMMISSION ATTENDEES: See table 1

CPSA 6 (b)(1) Cleared
* 5/19/00
Products Identified
Excepted by
Firms Notified,
Comments Processed.

Reports from other Playground Groups:

CPSC staff - A study on playground equipment related injuries is underway and should be completed by September 2000 and the report should be available by 2001. The CPSC staff is also conducting a survey of home playground equipment conformance to the ASTM standard. On-site visits to 35 companies have been completed and are being analyzed.

National Program for Playground Safety - NPPS completed a 2-year survey on public playgrounds including a report card for every state. April 24, 2000 was national playground safety week and a successful media event.

Fencing F14 - A proposed standard for playground fencing is out for ballot. Negatives will be addressed in a June 2000 meeting in Toronto

Aquatic Play Equipment - the next meeting is scheduled for September 29 in San Diego. Due to the added cost of meeting in San Diego, all 4 Playground subcommittees decided against holding concurrent playground meetings.

IPEMA - The IPEMA surfacing certification committee is in place. The European toggle test to determine hazardous gaps that could catch drawstrings is being evaluated.



ASTM Subcommittee F15.44 - Playground Equipment Children under 2
May 8-9, 2000

The subcommittee chairman was informed that California passed a law requiring all public and private playgrounds be inspected by a certified playground inspector and comply with the CPSC playground handbook by 2002.

The subcommittee discussed the proposal to exempt equipment under 12 inches from requiring protective surfacing. The subcommittee was not aware of any data to show that a 12-inch fall would not result in an injury. CPSC staff presented incidents due to falls out of strollers and infant carriers onto hard tile or concrete surfaces that resulted in head injuries. Some members of the group were concerned that day cares may not be able to afford protective surfacing and will choose not to install a indoor play equipment. Some members believed that children fall from 12 inches when playing on coffee tables or sofas and do not sustain injuries. CPSC staff felt that children just learning to stand and walk in combination with the playground environment, will fall and should be protect from serious head injury. After continued discussion, the subcommittee voted (10 - for, 4 - against) to remove the 12-inch exemption from the draft standard.

The subcommittee discussed when a play structure does not present a fall hazard. The subcommittee agreed that if a structure is enclosed or has a barrier height greater than 48 inches high, a two-year-old child is unlikely to fall from the structure. The subcommittee voted to draft language to exempt these types of structures from protective surfacing requirements.

The subcommittee discussed that the lack of injury data makes it difficult to develop the standard. Two members agreed to request injury data from the daycare facilities that they work with.

ASTM Subcommittee F15.09 - Home Playground Equipment
May 9, 2000

The subcommittee reviewed the negatives from the F15 (00-02) ballot. Negatives requiring Toy Chests to meet applicable safety standards were considered editorial and were revised to address the voter's concerns. Two negative voters were concerned with the proposal to allow ropes on ramps. The voters sited groin injuries in Canada on equipment with climbing ropes. The subcommittee voted the negative persuasive and formed a working group to draft requirements to address these injuries.

Several negatives were received on the proposed section on Hand Grasping Components. The subcommittee found one to be persuasive and the others were misinterpretations of the proposed requirement. The subcommittee revised the wording to clarify the requirements and to address the persuasive negative. The Hand Grasping Components section will be reballoted.

The subcommittee discussed the need for requirements for tot swings that can be added onto the playground. These swings are typically intended for the 6-month - 3 year old child and often use a T bar or other means of restraint to keep the child in the seat. The subcommittee formed a working group to develop requirements. Changes and additions

to the standard would include revising the scope to include swings for use by children 6 month old, and adding leg hole opening, restraint, structural, labeling and protrusion requirements.

ASTM Subcommittee F15.36 – Soft Contained Playground Equipment (SCPE)

May 9-10, 2000

The subcommittee worked on revising the standard to clarify the requirements. The subcommittee also compared the Public Playground standard 1487, to determine if changes or additions were needed to the Soft Contained Play Equipment (SCPE) standard. An access/egress section will be added to the standard. Section 7.1.2 the standard specifies the maximum vertical distance between platforms exempt from surfacing. The subcommittee agreed that this section needs clarification and the subcommittee chairman will draft new language for review. The SCPE structural integrity loading requirements are significantly more stringent than load requirements for public playground slides. The subcommittee agreed to adopt the Public Playground load requirements. The subcommittee agreed to adopt the Public Playground definition for designated play surfaces. A subcommittee member was aware of a new National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Life Safety Code for SCPE facilities. The subcommittee agreed to reference the new code in the standard. A working group completed the revisions to the drawings for dead end structures. Completed revisions will go to letter ballot.

ASTM Subcommittee F15.29 – Public Playground Equipment

May 10-11, 2000

The subcommittee addressed the comments and negatives to the previous ballot. One negative voter was not satisfied with the fall height definition for upper body equipment being the distance between the highest hand support and the ground. The negative voter showed examples such as ring track where the highest hand support could be the bottom of the ring or the top of the structure. The negative voter agreed to withdraw his negative if the subcommittee added a definition for upper body equipment. The subcommittee will continue to develop a definition for upper body equipment.

One negative requested the subcommittee to revise the definition for the fall height from track rides to clarify the location of the handgrip. The subcommittee found the negative persuasive and adopted the voters wording. The fall height definition will be reballotted. All other negative votes were found non-persuasive or where withdrawn.

The subcommittee working groups continued to “clean-up” the text and figures.

Table 1: Non-commission Attendees

Attendee	Affiliation	Under 2	Publi c	Soft	Home
Adams, Peter	Childspace Playgrounds, LTD		x		
Artwick, Kert	Gametime		x		
Benvenuto, Pat	United Cerebral Palsey Association	x			
Bolland, Matthew	Newco Inc		x		
Brickleey, Marjorie	William Rianey Harper College	x			
Burton, Scott	Safety Play Inc.		x	x	
Ceasar, Elizabeth	Playcare Inc.		x		
Chritiansen, Monty	Penn State University		x		
Cleveland, Curtis	Playworld Systems Inc.		x		
Danforth, Paul	Kompan Inc		x		
Dick, Dave	ACTS Testing Lab	x			
Druck, James	Playground Environments Inc.		x		x
Duffy, Bill	National School Supply & Equipment Assn.		x		
Gonzenbach, Jack	Miracle Recreation Equipment		x		
Grossman, Esther	Custom Playgrounds		x	x	
Hayward, Mike	Little Tikes Commercial		x	x	
Henderson, Walter	Henderson Consulting Services		x		
Hommel, David	Bird in Hand Wood works	x			
Illjes, Ted	Zeager Bros. Inc		x		
Iverson, Marylou	Iverson Associates	x	x	x	x
Johnson, Brian	Pentes Play			x	
Kanter, Ray	Safe Landings	x	x		
King, Steve	Landscape Structures		x		
Kutska, Kenneth	Wheaton Park District		x		
Leathers, Robert	Leathers and Associates		x		
McWilliams, Mike	Gametime		x		
Mittelstaedt, Arthur	Recreation Safety Inst.		x		
Mogens, Tom Jensen	Kompan		x		
Morgan, Kathie	ASTM	x	x	x	x
Mullins, Mike	Children's Factory	x			
Nagelski, Keith	Soft Play			x	
Nash, Jonathan	Child Life Inc	x			
Noe, Bruce	ASTM				
Norquist, Tom	Gametime		x		
Payne, Nina	Howell Equipment Co Inc.		x		
Pencille, Bill	Playground Concepts		x	x	
Pepper, Rob			x	x	
Preston, John	John Preston Consulting		x		x
Reese, Loyd	Little Tikes Commercial		x		
Rogers, Marcia		x			
Schappet, Jean			x		x
Segal, Barry	Leathers and Associates		x		
Shelton, Keith	Detriot Testing Labs		x		
Sherman, Elaine		x	x		
Stluka, Robert	Miracle Recreation Equipment		x		
Sutton, Wesley	Gametime		x		
Thompson, Donna	University of Northern Iowa	x	x	x	x
Van Deusen, Gary	Qualite Sport Lighting		x		
Waugh, Richard	BCI Burke Co.		x		
Welsh, Patrick	Hedstrom				x
Wiser, Dana	Community Playthings	x			

